INDIE GROUP A HAPPY ACCIDENT
JACK WHITE TALKS ON DEAD WEATHER {page 10}

END OF AN ERA FOR N.Y. YANKEES
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PAY DIRT
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ALL THE DISH {page 13}

VANCOUVER metro®
Wednesday, July 14, 2010
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Foreign students face sex, drugs

- 30,500 homestay students, most from China, Korea and Japan interviewed
- Students more likely to skip school, less likely to engage in extracurricular activities

KRISTEN THOMPSON
@METRONEWS.CA

Asian homestay students attending high school in British Columbia are more likely than Canadian peers to smoke, use drugs and engage in early sex, according to a University of B.C. study released yesterday.

The survey found that 23 per cent of homestay girls were sexually abused — compared to nine per cent of immigrant or Canadian-born girls — and were twice as likely to be sexually active.

Elizabeth Saewyc, study co-author, said there's a need for greater oversight.

"We have systems in place for licensing day care providers and foster parents," she said. "Shouldn't we also have systems for protecting foreign teens?"

{More coverage, page 4}

Wildfire. Okanagan

▶ B.C. Ministry of Forest workers put out hot spots in front a house at Seclusion Bay near Kelowna yesterday.

GARY NYLANDER/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Crews contain fire as wetter weather moves in {page 2}

Work

Early call a night owl's challenge

Larks can hold an advantage in 9-5 world ◐ All is not lost, night owls can retrain their inner clock, says researcher {page 16}

Will new cap close off BP gusher?

Process begun to shut down geyser of crude flowing into Gulf {page 7}

Intrigue in Tangier

North Africa's bohemia paradise for libertines {page 14}

Sullivan on an enduring classic

To Kill a Mockingbird marks 50 years in print {page 9}

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1 news

Seclusion Bay blaze contained

Firefighters have managed to contain a wildfire at Seclusion Bay near Peachland thanks to hard work and favourable weather conditions, officials say.

However, an evacuation order remains in place for the affected area while crews and helicopters continue to battle the blaze.

"We're still assessing the situation ... and officials are working to remove dangerous trees and other hazards," said Bruce Smith, the public information officer for the Emergency Operations Centre in Kelowna.

He added that 67 people registered with emergency services following the evacuation, most of whom are visitors to the Seclusion Bay Resort.

"Last night, 17 firefighters were working on the south flank (of Drought Hill near Seclusion Bay) and today they're working on the north side, which has very steep, rocky terrain," said fire information officer Kayla Pepper.

The Seclusion Bay fire is roughly 30 hectares in size.

Sixty firefighters are also working to contain a large wildfire at Tsacha Lake, west of Quesnel and near the Kluskus Indian Reservation.

KYLE FARQUHARSON

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF CENTRAL OKANAGAN

▶ A wildfire burns near Peachland.

B.C. RCMP aiding search for couple

Long-haul truck driver, wife went missing on trip to Abbotsford

ANDREAS MORSE
@METRONEWS.CA

RCMP in B.C. have joined the hunt for an elderly Edmonton-area couple who went missing en route to Abbotsford.

Lyle and Marie McCann were last seen July 3 at a gas station. They were in their motorhome, towing a light-green Hyundai Tucson.

Police found the couple's motorhome destroyed by fire on July 5, but didn't start a missing-persons investigation until the McCann family reported them missing on July 10. The SUV is missing as well.

"This is a jigsaw puzzle that we're putting together," said RCMP spokesperson Sgt. Patrick Webb. "At this point, the focus is on finding the McCanns."

Bret McCann, Lyle and Marie's son, said the family has set up a Facebook page in the hopes of finding his missing parents.

"Our whole family is just devastated by this," McCann said. "We're very hopeful that they're somewhere. They may be hurt, but they're somewhere."

McCann also had a message for his mother and father.

"We know you're out there and we're looking as hard as we can," he said.

▶ Lyle and Marie McCann

Keep an eye out

- Police are looking for the McCanns and their light-green Hyundai Tucson SUV, licence plate number ZPK 289.

ANDREAS MORSE/METRO CANADA

▶ RCMP Sgt. Patrick Webb, left, holds a picture of the McCanns' Hyundai SUV as son Bret asks the public for help in finding his missing parents.

News on the move

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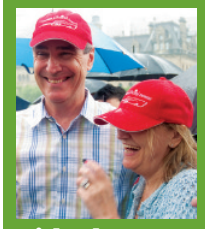

Michael Ignatieff kicks off summer tour touting new brand of politics. Video at metronews.ca/canada

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▶ Surrey Mayor Dianne Watts

DIANNE WATTS

"WE WANT TO CELEBRATE OUR OWN"

The Stanley Cup comes to B.C. today when ex-Blackhawk Colin Fraser visits Surrey Central City Plaza between noon and 3 p.m. Metro spoke with Surrey Mayor Dianne Watts.

Are you excited?
I am. This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate with our minor hockey clubs as well as welcoming our Surrey boy back home.

Are there mixed emotions because (the Blackhawks) knocked the Canucks out?
As mayor I'm proud that he's a Surrey boy. For anyone to have that amount of success is amazing and he absolutely deserves a lot of congratulations. And yes, I'm sorry the Canucks aren't the ones bringing it back, but as a community we want to celebrate our own and he is a wonderful role model.

What's planned?
It's a three-hour community event. We've got the hockey clubs coming out. We've got a barbecue with the Stanley Cup. We've got over 3,100 kids in Surrey Minor Hockey and another 1,100 adult players. There's a lot of excitement.

JEFF HODSON

Wild west end fight on rezone

Zoning changes in neighbourhood could increase density by 500 per cent in one case, resident says ◐ Stir program approved in June 2009

JEFF HODSON
@METRONEWS.CA

JEFF HODSON

▶ St. John's United Church on Comox Street in West End is proposed for rezoning.

The F-bombs dropped by Mayor Gregor Robertson at a recent council meeting are a minor issue compared to the concern that neighbours are being ignored, a West End resident blasted yesterday.

Randy Helten, with West End Neighbours, a group concerned with fast-track rezoning in the area, said residents have consistently been disregarded.

"In these important land-use decisions," he said, "they have not been showing fairness and consulting with the people in Vancouver in the neighbourhoods."

Talking with reporters on Monday, Robertson said his comments were inappropriate, but said he was not being dismissive. He said building more rental housing is a tough issue, with people and viewpoints on all sides.

"We hope that beyond just the apology for profanity, they will actually start to listen to the messages being said instead of just trying to discredit them for being associated with certain groups."
RANDY HELTEN

Helten's group is concerned about the rezoning of a number of sites proposed under the city's Short Term Incentives for Rental (STIR) housing program.

They include a 21-storey tower proposed at the site of Maxine's Hideaway (1215 Bidwell St.) and a 22-storey tower at St. John's Church (1401 Comox St.)

Unpopular

The disliked HST appears to be a major influence in people's opinions.

Significant opposition to HST 76 per cent of respondents in the online survey disagree with the implementation of the HST. Seventy-five per cent of respondents would vote to abolish the HST.

NDP gets surge of support

An Angus Reid poll released yesterday shows 46 per cent of respondents intend to vote NDP in the next provincial election.

Support for the governing Liberals is down to 23 per cent.

NATASHA POON

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Chocolate. Record coin?

▶ A 60-centimentre-wide chocolate coin is on display at Science World until Sept. 6.

PHOTO COURTESY TELUS WORLD OF SCIENCE

Chocolate coin and big money

The Telus World Of Science is trying to get its 11-kilogram chocolate coin, created by Purdy's chocolatiers, into the Guinness Book Of World Records as the largest chocolate coin. It was created as a prize for visitors of this summer's Feature Gallery, Treasure!

Correction notice

Ecojustice, which is participating in the Cohen Commission into disappearing Fraser River salmon, is not suing the government. The group wants to draw attention to previous inquiries having not led to concrete action on salmon declines.

METRO VANCOUVER

Remains found

A resident of Glenora discovered burnt human remains while berry-picking in the woods yesterday afternoon. RCMP have not yet determined the deceased's identity or gender, but foul play is suspected.

KYLE FARQUHARSON

Shock over death

Savary Island fire chief Verne Rosenberg says residents in the community are "in shock" after a fall from a bluff this weekend claimed the life of an American tourist.

The victim is a 27-year-old woman from Wisconsin. Her name has not been released.

Officials with the Rescue Co-ordination Centre in Victoria say two rescue vessels responded to the incident just west of Lund, about 200 kilometres north of Vancouver.

"She was aware of (the 150-foot bank)," said Rosenberg. "She just zigged when she should have zagged, and this was an unfortunate accident."

KYLE FARQUHARSON/WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Teens not mature enough to be on own: Co-ordinator

Teen homestay girls twice as likely as Canadian peers to be sexually active, UBC study finds

KRISTEN THOMPSON
@METRONEWS.CA

Foreign parents should wait until their kids have graduated high school before sending them to study English in Vancouver, according to the owner of a local homestay agency.

Shannon Green, who runs Vancouver Central Homestay, said she wasn't surprised by a UBC study released yesterday that found Asian teens living here without parents are more likely than Canadian peers to be having sex or using hard drugs.

"My personal thought is it's a result of absentee parental supervision," said Green, adding she's had homestay requests for eight-year-olds.

"They long for their parents, for support and ... there's only so much (homestay parents) can do."

Green had one student who got pregnant and knew of another at a different homestay agency who was pregnant when she arrived, and whose parents asked the homestay family to take her for an abortion.

Green said homestay families need to involve their students in all aspects of family life, including grocery trips and excursions to the beach.

Sabrina Wong, co-author of the UBC study, said part of the problem is no one is keeping track of the teens who come to Canada to study.

"Teenagers need parents — or parent-like adults — to provide guidance and support, not just room and board," said Wong.

Anamaria Yepes, 19, a student from Colombia, said peer pressure and language barriers are partly to blame.

"They can't express (themselves) in their own language," she said.

WITH FILES FROM NATASHA POON

"(Students) come here and feel not free with their parents. They misunderstand their freedom."
MASASHA ISHIZAKI, 28, A STUDENT FROM JAPAN

"They can get drugs easily, and many people ask them to try."
SAEMINA LEE, 24, A STUDENT FROM SOUTH KOREA

Chairlift changes urged at Blackcomb

BCSA report stems from 2008 collapse ◐ Twelve years earlier, another accident caused two deaths

Chairlift towers at Blackcomb-Whistler should be equipped with drain holes to prevent water from amassing within, according to a B.C. Safety Authority (BCSA) report released yesterday.

It contained the results of an investigation into the collapse of one of the Excalibur Gondola's towers on Blackcomb Mountain in December 2008.

According to the document, the tower's failure was triggered by water that seeped into the structure's central cavity and then expanded while freezing. The resulting collapse wounded 12 passengers and damaged six cabins.

The report's five other recommendations have to do with ensuring proper communication, documentation and awareness between construction contractors and officials.

KYLE FARQUHARSON

THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ The Excalibur lift on Blackcomb Mountain is seen after a tower partially collapsed on Dec. 21, 2008, trapping more than 12 people.

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Iran's missing scientist free to go, says U.S.

CAROLYN KASTER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A missing Iranian nuclear scientist, who has sought refuge at a Pakistani embassy office in Washington and who Iran claims was abducted, is free to return to his homeland, the U.S State Department said yesterday.

It was the latest development in a murky case that has been shrouded in mystery since the scientist, Shahram Amiri, disappeared while on a pilgrimage to Saudi Arabia in 2009.

"He has been in the United States of his own free will and obviously he is free to go," department spokesman P.J. Crowley said. "In fact, he was scheduled to travel to Iran yesterday but was unable to make all of the necessary arrangements to reach Iran through transit countries."

Iran's foreign minister, Manouchehr Mottaki, said Amiri was found after having been kidnapped during the Hajj and taken to the U.S. against his will. He demanded that Amiri be allowed to return home "without any obstacle."

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said Amiri was free to go. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"In contrast, Iran continues to hold three young Americans against their will, and we reiterate our request that they be released."
HILLARY CLINTON, U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ A nationalist protester runs from a flaming car during clashes with police in Belfast, Northern Ireland, early yesterday.

Police left licking wounds after riots

Top cop says video evidence will be used to hunt down rioters who hid behind masks and scarves ◐ Children as young as eight among rioters

Northern Ireland leaders condemned Irish nationalist rioters yesterday who wounded 82 police officers during two nights of street clashes sparked by the province's annual parades by the British Protestant majority.

While most of the injured officers suffered only cuts and bruises, others suffered burns and broken hands. Two remained hospitalized: one wounded in the chest and arms by a shotgun blast, and another who had a paving stone dropped on her head from a shop's rooftop.

PETER MORRISON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The violence in working-class Catholic parts of Belfast and other towns came both before and after tens of thousands of Protestants of the Orange Order brotherhood marched at 18 locations across Northern Ireland in an annual show of communal strength.

It was the worst rioting in Belfast since the same event exactly one year ago.

The Northern Ireland police commander, Chief Const. Matt Baggott, released video of Monday's rioting, showing hundreds of masked teens and young men swarming and pummelling police armoured vehicles and swinging clubs at shield-wielding police. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"The cost of policing last night ... is the equivalent of a new ward in a hospital (or) a new primary school."
CHIEF CONST. MATT BAGGOTT

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CHINA

Landslides slam into towns

Landslides slammed into three mountain hamlets in western China early yesterday, killing 17 people and leaving 44 missing, while crews drained a fast-rising reservoir in another part of the country following heavy rains. The landslides swept through three different areas before dawn, state media said. In the worst-hit town of Xiaohe in Yunnan province, four died and rescuers were searching for 42 others, the official provincial newspaper Yunnan Daily reported on its website. Another 38 were injured.

In neighbouring Sichuan province, seven died and one person was missing in Yandai village, while rescuers recovered six bodies and were searching for one person in Sima village, the Xinhua News Agency reported. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Veil ban upheld in France

France's lower house of parliament overwhelmingly approved a ban on wearing burqa-style Islamic veils yesterday, part of a concerted effort to define and protect French values. The ban on burqas and niqabs will go in September to the Senate, where it also is likely to pass.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Barefoot bandit' deported

The American teen who police call the "Barefoot Bandit" was deported to the United States yesterday, just hours after he pleaded guilty to a minor offence in the Bahamas. Officials escorted Colton Harris-Moore to Miami to face prosecution for a two-year string of thefts.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Beginning of the end for Gulf oil gusher?

BP/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ In a video from BP, oil emerges from the damaged wellhead yesterday.

If cap attempt succeeds, BP can stop the flow of oil into the water

In a potentially pivotal moment in the Gulf crisis, BP was preparing yesterday to begin closing valves in a slow and methodical process that could finally choke off the geyser of crude at the bottom of the sea after three gloomy months and up to 681 million litres spilled.

A new, tighter-fitting cap was lowered over the blown-out well Monday night, designed to be a temporary fix until the well is plugged underground.

The next phase was to shut the openings in the 75-ton metal stack of pipes and valves gradually, one at a time, while watching pressure gauges to see if the cap would hold or any new leaks erupted.

The operation could last anywhere from six to 48 hours. BP first targeted a midday start yesterday but later said that was overly optimistic and pushed expectations back.

"They ought to be interested and concerned, but if they hold their breath, they'll run out of oxygen."
U.S. NATIONAL INCIDENT COMMANDER THAD ALLEN ON GULF RESIDENTS' EXPECTATIONS REGARDING THE LATEST CAP ATTEMPT

In Washington, White House spokesman Robert Gibbs said the effort to put the containment cap into operation "represents the best news that we've had in the preceding 85 days."
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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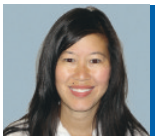

Priscilla Yu
RBC Royal Bank®
Manager,
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Everyone is looking for ways to save money. If you've done any household budgeting you know that the worst culprits for draining your resources aren't necessarily big expenditures and shopping sprees. More often the problem is the smaller expenses – the ones you don't even think about – that add up to a big tab at the end of the month. For example, people seldom think about how much they could save by changing their banking habits, or even their bank account.

Debit number-crunching

We might be more inclined to reach for our debit card rather than a credit card for daily purchases because we associate credit cards with interest payments. Besides, debit is so convenient! But if your banking plan doesn't include unlimited debit transactions, you may be paying more in service charges than you realize. Have a look at your monthly statement and compare what you're paying in fees to the cost of an account that suits your banking and purchasing habits better. For many of us, switching to an account that includes unlimited debits can help save money every month by reducing excess fees.

Living in the ATM age

ATM fees can add up too. You should always try to use your own bank's ATM whenever possible. If you don't, you could end up paying twice for each transaction – once to the bank whose machine you're using, and once to your own bank. But sometimes it's unavoidable. An account that waives ATM fees when you use another bank's ATM could save you from some of these charges. Another trick is getting cash back from retailers when you make purchases on debit.

Banking for two

Different people take different approaches to banking – some couples use a joint account for everything, and others prefer to keep their banking separate. Whichever scenario you and your partner or spouse fit into, you may be able to save on monthly fees by switching to a banking package that includes multiple accounts for a single fee.

Bundle up and save

The same principles that apply to the other bundled services in your life – your cell phone plan or your cable television package, for example – can be applied to your personal banking services. And if your current financial institution doesn't offer you discounts on bundled services and accounts, or flat-rate accounts that eliminate *à la carte* charges for transactions you make regularly, it might be time to consider switching banks. A bit of time spent shopping for the right bank account can lead to big savings at the end of the year.

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Better economy means time to rebuild savings

Survey finds 25% of us don't think of saving Even four dollars a day can improve finances: Scotiabank

Nearly one-third of Canadians do not have a savings plan in place even though almost everybody would like a financial safety net, according to a survey done for one of the country's largest banks.

"People want to save .... I think the issue is they don't know how to get started," said Gillian Riley, senior vice-president of retail deposits, payment and lending at Scotiabank, which commissioned the study of Canadians' savings habits.

Only 55 per cent of people surveyed told pollsters they save on a regular basis. And nearly one in five Canadians said they don't have any rainy day savings at all. But Riley said she was most surprised by the survey's finding that one-quarter of Canadians live day-to-day and don't think about saving money.

Canadians need to start thinking about their long-term finances again after many found themselves in financial hardship during the 2008-2009 recession, she said.

"We did have a tough period in the last few years and I think now is a great time to really focus on this and get people thinking about how they can save," she added.

Many Canadians were laid off during the recession and some were forced to dip into savings, while other saw the plunging stock market wreak havoc on their investments.

Riley said automatic payments are an almost painless way to save. Such payments can be made through rounding up debit card payments at the till and devoting the difference to savings, or by an automated transfer of even $50 to $100 per month.

Consumers will find that saving an additional $1,500 a year will make a significant improvement to their finances — and although it may sound like a lot, it works out to about four dollars a day, Scotiabank said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market moment

TSX	Dollar
+ 107.08 (11,672.84)	+ 0.35¢ (96.74¢ US)
Oil	**Natural gas 1,000 cu ft**
+ $2.20 US ($77.15 US)	$4.354 (– 3.4¢)
	Gold contracts
	$1,213.30 (+ $14.80)

PRICES AS OF 4 P.M. YESTERDAY

British Airways. Strike

▶ A British Airways employee protests outside a conference centre where the airline's shareholders were holding their annual meeting in London, England yesterday.

LEFTERIS PITARAKIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Airline feeling the pinch

British Airways is dealing with a dispute with cabin crew over staff cuts and treatment of strikers that has cost it more than $234 million so far.

Canada buys more than it sells

Canada's merchandise trade deficit climbed to half a billion dollars in May as an increase in the value of imports outpaced gains on the export side, Statistics Canada reported yesterday.

The agency said the shortfall widened to $503 million in May from $330 million in April .

Exports rose to $34.5 billion from $32.8 billion in April after two months of decline. However, imports also rose — to $35 billion from $33.1 billion in April. THE CANADIAN PRESS

3.6B

Canada's trade surplus with the U.S. widened to $3.6 billion in May from $3.5 billion in April. Our trade deficit with countries other than the U.S. expanded to $4.1 billion in May from $3.8 billion in April.

SETTING COMPASSES FOR A GENERATION

Just sayin'

PAUL SULLIVAN

Happy 50th birthday to the most enduring and important novel of the 20th Century: To Kill a Mockingbird, the classic story of courage and the miscarriage of social justice in a southern U.S. town in the mid-'30s.

Why the most enduring? It was published on July 11, 1960 and has never been out of print. It's now in its 5,000th printing.

Why the most important? It was voted by British librarians, surely the world's most demanding critics, as the one book adults should read before they die. And that includes the Bible.

I first read To Kill a Mockingbird when I was 10, just four years older than the novel's spunky little narrator, Scout Finch. Scout is a miracle, as is the story itself. And if you haven't read it, I suggest you waste no time. Like millions of us, you'll never be the same.

"If you haven't read it, I suggest you waste no time. Like millions of us, you'll never be the same."

Harper Lee's most compelling creation is Scout's father Atticus, the small-town lawyer who defines courage in a way that still sends shivers down my back: "When you're licked before you begin, but you begin anyway and you see it through no matter what."

It's an old-fashioned sentiment in the way that truth, beauty and love are old-fashioned sentiments.

The book has plenty of those qualities, but at its core is the decency of Atticus Finch, who, despite the town's disapproval, staunchly defends Tom Robinson, a black man falsely accused of raping a white woman. Although Atticus skillfully reveals the woman is lying, Tom is convicted anyway, and is later shot trying to escape custody. There's nothing easy about To Kill a Mockingbird.

In her gentle, even genteel way, Harper generates a thirst for social justice that helped define a generation of Boomers. Maybe it's the book itself; more likely it's the 1962 Oscar-winning movie, starring Gregory Peck as Atticus, but its resolute defence of decency resonates today.

Especially today, when decency is discounted and cheap sentiment prevails.

Exhibit A: Twilight, in which photogenic vampires yearn to play tonsil hockey with a mortal teen, but the boy vampire resists in order to spare his young love the consequence: An immortal allergy to garlic. Love bites.

When life gets hard and confusing, I have a tendency to drift. All I need to get my compass reset is to pay a visit to Atticus, Scout and Boo Radley.

In a way, even though Maycomb, Alabama, is a million miles from where I grew up, it's like going home again.

Cartoon

MICHAEL DE ADDER

Noteworthy

Study links teenage obesity to early death

New research suggests that men who are obese by age 20 die eight years earlier on average than their non-obese peers.

The Danish study also shows that obesity usually develops before the age of 20 and that most people are unlikely to develop obesity later. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lots of love for World Cup

Letters & Tweets

OTTAWA. Yes, I enjoyed the World Cup.

Despite the early departures of Italy and France, the outrage over refereeing and disappointing showing of some superstars, there were plenty of both amazing games and breathtaking plays:

- The fluid partnership of Ozil and Müller for the German side.
- Messi's fluidity for the Argentinian squad.
- The toughness of the Paraguayans.
- The surprise strength of the New Zealanders.
- That first goal, scored by South Africa's Siphiwe Tshabalala.

Matches of special note for me were two Uruguay matches:

- The dramatic and hard-fought — but heart-breaking — match between Uruguay and Ghana
- And the incredible consolation match of Uruguay and Germany which went down to the final second.

And those beautiful games by the Spanish team against Chile, Portugal and Paraguay, but especially the semi-final against Germany.

Viva Espana!

Yes, I cheered with the rest of the Spanish fans Sunday for the final.

Kudos to the CBC for fantastic blanket coverage.

CHERYL SUTHERLAND

South Africa's opening goal

CLIVE MASON/GETTY IMAGES

What's the one food that says summer to you?

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Metro Minute in Stanley Park

Enjoy the '80s adventure classic The Goonies with hundreds of other nostalgic Vancouverites tonight at a free outdoor showing at Stanley Park.

The West End Business Improvement Association puts on Dinner And A Movie, showing one film on a giant inflatable screen every Wednesday or Thursday night in July.

The movies start at dusk — around 9:30 p.m. — at Ceperley Meadow near Second Beach.

Next Thursday they're showing Monsters Vs. Aliens, followed by the Karate Kid.

Don't forget to bring a blanket and sweater.

For more information visit westendbia.com.

KRISTEN THOMPSON

VANCOUVER.CA

▶ People wait for a movie to start at an outdoor screen in Stanley Park.

2 scene

News in brief

1 The Village People won't be changing their hit song Y.M.C.A. just because the YMCA is now known as just the Y. ASSOCIATED PRESS

2 Rip Torn has applied for a probation program to settle charges that he broke into a bank while armed and intoxicated in January. ASSOCIATED PRESS

3 Robert Plant is being honoured with a star in a music sidewalk in Memphis. ASSOCIATED PRESS

Die Hard director John McTiernan pleads guilty in wiretapping case

IAN GAVAN/GETTY IMAGES

▶ The Dead Weather was formed last year by The White Stripes' Jack White (pictured) and The Kills' Alison Mosshart

Indie supergroup a happy accident

After pitching in with The Raconteurs Alison Mosshart teamed with Jack White to form The Dead Weather Latest album features contributions from all four band members

JÉRÔME VERMELIN
METRO WORLD NEWS

The Dead Weather is the closest thing indie music has to a supergroup. They were formed last year by White Stripes Jack White, the Kills Alison Mosshart, and various members of Queens of the Stone Age and the Raconteurs.

Metro met with Jack and Alison to talk about new albums, booming business and movies.

If back in 2009 someone had told you that the Dead Weather would have released two albums in less than a year, would you have believed them?

AM: I didn't see things coming but I love it. At first, I gave Jack a hand with the Raconteurs when he lost his voice. Then we got it in our heads that we would record a single, before we knew it we had written six songs in 15 hours. Then we went on tour and now we have a new album!

JW: The band was a happy accident. Similar to the Raconteurs five years ago, I couldn't quiet believe I was about to start a new band. Then I thought back to the times when I had just started in the industry, I was in three or four bands at the same time, so it's fairly logical to do the same now.

JV: Many musicians are involved in more than one project at a time. Is this just business or just the way that the music industry has evolved?

JW: When I told my manager that the second album was ready, I asked him if it was a good idea to release it right away. Would people think I was choosing quality over quantity? The truth is that's not the way I see things. I'm not one of the Backstreet Boys, I'm not scared that the kids are going to forget me. I make music because I want to, not because I want to make money off it. Anyway, business and art never sit well together.

JV: The record is very organic; did you write it in one go?

JW: All four of us write and we never know where it will take us. I'm on the drums, we start an instrumental like with Blue Blood Blues, and we record the sounds without knowing where it all lead to, when it will stop or when one of us will sing. With the White Stripes it's very different, I write a song on the piano and then Meg and I electrify it.

"I played with three other musicians when I first started but our collaboration was never as close as with the Dead Weather."
ALISON MOSSHART

Gyllenhaal backs TV fundraiser Stand Up to Cancer

A fourth major broadcast network and Jake Gyllenhaal are adding their support to the ambitious TV fundraiser Stand Up to Cancer.

Fox will join previously announced ABC, CBS and NBC in donating a simultaneous commercial-free hour of prime-time for the September telethon airing from Los Angeles, it was announced yesterday.

Gyllenhaal will appear in a Stand Up to Cancer public service announcement set to debut during Major League Baseball's All-Star Game airing Tuesday evening on Fox.

More cable networks also have agreed to carry the fundraiser, with VH1, HBO Latino, TV1 and G4 joining previously announced HBO, Discovery Health, MLB Network, E! and the Style Network.

Stand Up to Cancer, to be hosted by Katie Couric, Diane Sawyer and Brian Williams, will air Sept. 10.

GETTY IMAGES FILE

▶ Jake Gyllenhaal

Film and TV producer Laura Ziskin (the Spider-Man franchise), a cancer survivor who produced the first telecast in 2008, has taken on the job again. The original fundraiser, which included Lance Armstrong, Beyonce and other celebrities, helped deliver more than $100 million for research into the disease.

"Cancer is a crisis and we want to convey that all Americans can play a role in helping the scientists who are working to end it," Ziskin said in a statement. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Big effort

- Stand Up to Cancer is a program of the Entertainment Industry Foundation, a non-profit TV and film industry group that supports programs addressing health, education and social issues.

Polanski case shows privilege: Swiss media

Newspaper opinions condemn decision to free famous director They say it shows rich get special treatment

Switzerland's decision to reject a U.S. extradition request for director Roman Polanski may have shown that legal principles are paramount here but also left the impression that the rich and famous enjoy special privileges, Swiss newspapers opined Tuesday.

Long known for the low tax rates it offers the super-wealthy, Switzerland set a remarkable legal precedent, as authorities broke with tradition by analyzing far more than the formalities of the American request, delving deep into allegations of mishandled justice by Los Angeles authorities.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Roman Polanski

The Swiss government may have had a strong case for its action — to guard against complicity in what was interpreted as an unjustified U.S. pursuit — but the move left authorities open to claims of favouritism.

"If the main character in this drama hadn't been Roman Polanski, but an unknown amateur actor, he would now be standing before a U.S. court," the daily Neue Luzerner Zeitung said in an opinion piece.

Polanski's whereabouts were unknown Tuesday, a day after his sudden release. His wife, French singer Emmanuelle Seigner, is scheduled to perform at the Montreux jazz festival in western Switzerland on Saturday, and her husband may now join her.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Movie reviews See it twice ●●●●● | See it now ●●●● | Worth Watching ●●● | Yawn ●● | Don't bother ●

This fantasy frustrates

In order to properly appreciate a picture like Disney's The Sorcerer's Apprentice, it helps if you have kids.

The film, starring a long-haired Nicolas Cage (teaming up once more with his National Treasure director Jon Turteltaub) as the legendary wizard Balthazar is one of those major studio summer family pictures that frustrates: an action-based, lavishly produced romp that toys with being an authentic fantasy film, but whose demographic pleasing sensibilities keep steering its narrative into silliness, better to please the younger set. And it's those very tots joy that might allow parents to cut it some much needed slack.

The story starts with a messy, seemingly post-production tampered prologue detailing the centuries old betrayal of big shot sorcerer Merlin at the hands of a cackling Morgana LeFay (Alice Krige) and her dandy underling Maxim Horvath (Alfred Molina, whose clearly having fun). When the heroic Balthazar tries to stop the evil duo, his lady love (a smoldering Monica Bellucci) is caught in the crossfire and is imprisoned in a vase with them.

Flash forward to today, wherein terminally nerdy science major Dave (Jay Baruchel, last seen on screen in The Trotsky) bumbles his way into Balthazar's life and is soon deemed "The Prime Merlinian," a sort of grand wizard in-training who must learn his cosmic trade before the fate of the planet falls pray to Morgana's vengeful wrath.

The Sorcerer's Apprentice
Genre: Fantasy
Director: Jon Turteltaub
Stars: Nicolas Cage, Jay Baruchel
●●●●●

Filled with wall-to-wall special effects and scenery chewing performances (its always a blast to watch Cage, especially when we see glimpses of the wild eyed enfant terrible emerge during unchecked moments), The Sorcerer's Apprentice never stops moving enough to let parents properly connect with the story or the characters. But kids won't care; they'll be too dazzled by the endless wizard duels, dancing brooms (a nod to The Sorcerer's Apprentice sequence in the masterful Disney classic, Fantasia), broad comedy (Baruchel's terminally geeky protagonist is so arch he seems to have stepped right out of Revenge of the Nerds) and loopy action set pieces to notice such trivial failings. And as all parents know, if they're happy…we're happy.

CHRIS ALEXANDER

Screentimes

Tinseltown: Wed-Thu 12:40-1:55-3:15-4:40-6-7:20-8:40-9:55
Esplanade 6: Wed-Thu 1:10-3:50-7:10-9:50
Richmond Centre 6: Wed-Thu 4:25-7:20-9:50
Silvercity Riverport: Wed-Thu 12:10-3:15-6:45-9:40
Silvercity Metropolis: Wed-Thu 12:30-3:40-7:15-10:15
Silvercity Coquitlam: Wed-Thu 12:15-1-3:10-4:15-6:50-7:30-9:40-10:40
Strawberry Hill Grande: No Passes Wed-Thu 12:45-3:45-7:15-10:05
Studio 12 Guildford: Wed 1-4-7-10
Colossus Langley: s Wed-Thu 12-12:45-3:15-4:20-6:55-7:30-9:45-10:25

Holland Bloorview | Kids Rehabilitation Hospital
PRESENTS
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Uncle Jesse finally takes the stand

Former Full House star testifies in exortion trial Denies he had a romantic fling with underage girl

Actor John Stamos described himself as "heartbroken" over the separation from his wife six years ago when he met a woman now charged with conspiring to extort $680,000 US from him.

He testified yesterday during a federal trial in Marquette, Mich.

Allison Coss and Scott Sippola are accused of demanding money from Stamos, saying they had photos of him with cocaine and strippers they could sell to a magazine.

Stamos said he met Coss at Florida's Pleasure Island, a club where patrons must be at least 18. The 46-year-old Stamos said Coss told him she was on "college" spring break.

The Full House and ER star described their time together as "just hanging out" and "socializing." His attorney denied a romantic fling.

The presiding judge last week ruled that testimony about whether Stamos had an intimate relationship with Coss would not be allowed. Opening statements are not testimony and cannot be considered by jurors as evidence but allow attorneys to outline the case they will present.

Defense attorney Sarah Henderson said the actor picked up Coss, 17 at the time, and a friend at a club and brought them back to his hotel. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GETTY IMAGES

▶ You're in big trouble, mister!

Celebrity tweets

Tori Spelling [@toriandean] I JUST ditched the paparazzi. That's a first! I outsmarted those bloodsuckers and no one was endangered in the process. Pat on the back T!

Conan O'Brien [@Conan-OBrien] Major disappointment today: I discovered that all the episodes of "Fringe" that I DVRed are NOT about cool leather cowboy jackets.

Talking points

Miranda's wedding woes

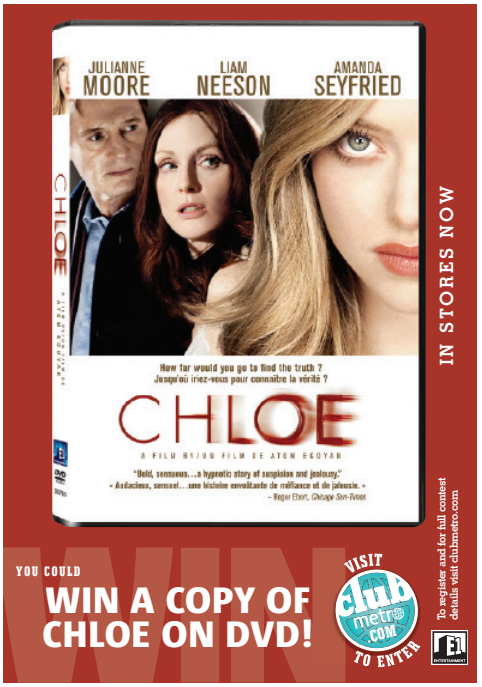
SHE'S ALREADY SHOPPING FOR HER BRIDAL BIKINI, THOUGH. Miranda Kerr admits planning her upcoming wedding to Orlando Bloom isn't a simple task. "We have family and friends all over the world, so deciding where is a tricky one," she says, according to Hollyscoop. "We are enjoying being engaged for the time being and will take our time in making any plans. We are both very private so would like it to be intimate and personal." Kerr admits that even though they'd been dating for three years, Bloom's proposal still caught her off guard. "We have been together for a while now and we had talked about it, but when it actually happened it was a total surprise," she says.

Jail revives Lohan's career

HEY – SPRAY TANS DON'T PAY FOR THEMSELVES. Lindsay Lohan is receiving offers for pre- and post-jail interviews at more than $500,000 US each, according to Page Six. "The irony is Lindsay is in demand," a source says. "The bidding is over $500,000 for the rights to the pre-jail interview." METRO WORLD NEWS

Confessions of a Teenage Prison Queen

DRAMA. SUSPENSE. COMEDY.
Visit metronews.ca to watch metrotube of the day



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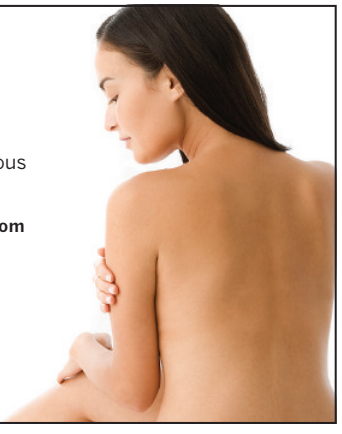


3 life

Intrigue in Tangier

Tangier has long been a byword for bohemia in North Africa.
It has been a hang-out for rock stars since the '60s, and today has lost none of its laid-back allure

View from Kasbah

ROMINA McGUINNESS
TRAVEL@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

Why go now?
The main port of entrance into North Africa from Spain, Tangier is Morocco's libertine hangout. Rock stars and celebrities have for decades used it as a bohemian bolt-hole. The pace is subdued and the summer's hot and sunny.

It's my first time. What should I do there?
Grand Socco square is a mish mash of cafes, restaurants and market stalls. It's the main entrance into the Medina and a great way of getting more of an insight into the local way of life. Walk up the narrow alleyways and you're bound to come across a snake charmer or musician. Stop for orange blossom infused coffee at Café Hafa (avenue Hadj Mohamed Tazi) on your way to visit the grandiose Kasbah Palaces. The Sultan's Palace, Dar El Mahkzen and Sidi Hosni are the most beautiful.

I've been before. What should I see this time?
The beach facing the Atlantic Ocean is a playground for water sport lovers.

Surfing, kite-boarding, and jet skiing are big deals here.

A camel ride along the seemingly endless stretch of sand is strangely therapeutic — if not a little bumpy. Sampling local delicacies is a must. Moroccan cuisine is one of the tastiest and most refined in North Africa. Restaurant Hamadi (2 Rue de la Kasbah) is the best place to go for a couscous followed by live music.

Where's the best place for an afternoon's shopping?
The Medina in the old town is the best for your Moroccan inspired buys. Alleyways are lined with stalls and sellers ready to haggle with you over the price of shoes or incense. You'll also come across many jewelers and herbalists. Parfumerie Madini (14 Rue Sebou) sells essential oils and soaps.

Owner Mr. Madini can copy any bottled scent placed under his nose.

What's the nightlife like?
Great seafood at the Restaurant Populaire Saveur (2 Escalier Waller, Ville Nouvelle). For dessert, order the "seffra" sweet couscous — sticky with honey and laden in dried fruits and nuts.

Enjoy a mint tea nightcap at Café Baba, with photos of the Rolling Stones (not so sure if the Stones drank tea) adorning the walls (1 Rue Sidi Hosni).

MUST-DO THINGS IN TANGIER

CAP SPARTEL
Some 10km out of Tangier is the enchanting spot of Cap Spartel. The view from here is spectacular, as you witness the merging of the Mediterranean Sea and Atlantic Ocean. The walk up to the lighthouse is pleasant and smells of fresh pine and eucalyptus.

ESSAOUIRA
Let the wind blow you across to the eerie city of Essaouira for the day. More happening than Tangier, it's a nice change of scenery during your trip yet stays true to style.

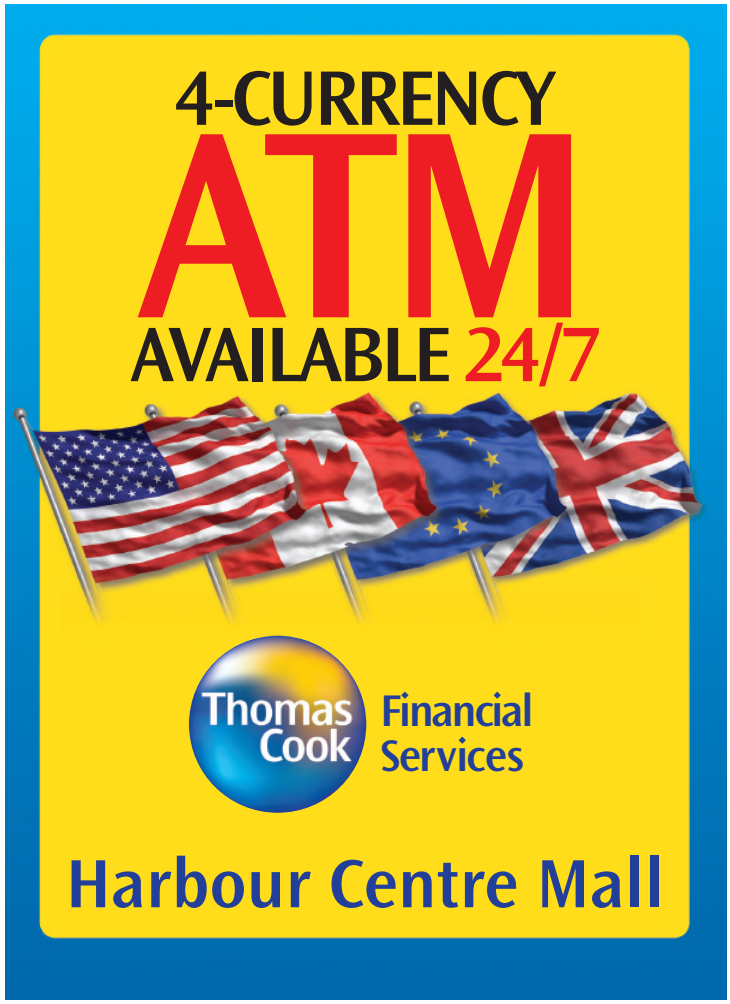
Top 2

Travel finds this week:

1 **Chicago:** Guests who book The Skyline Package with Chicago's Millennium Knickerbocker will receive accommodations in a Superior room, $50 dining gift card to the 95th Floor Signature Room at the John Hancock Tower, a chilled bottle of wine upon arrival for $199. millenniumhotels.com/knickerbocker

2 **Arizona:** Stay at Arizona Grand Resort for $199 a night which also includes a nightly $100 resort credit that can be used toward golf, spa, or dining. arizonagrandresort.com/

Follow in the footsteps of the Girl With the Dragon Tattoo



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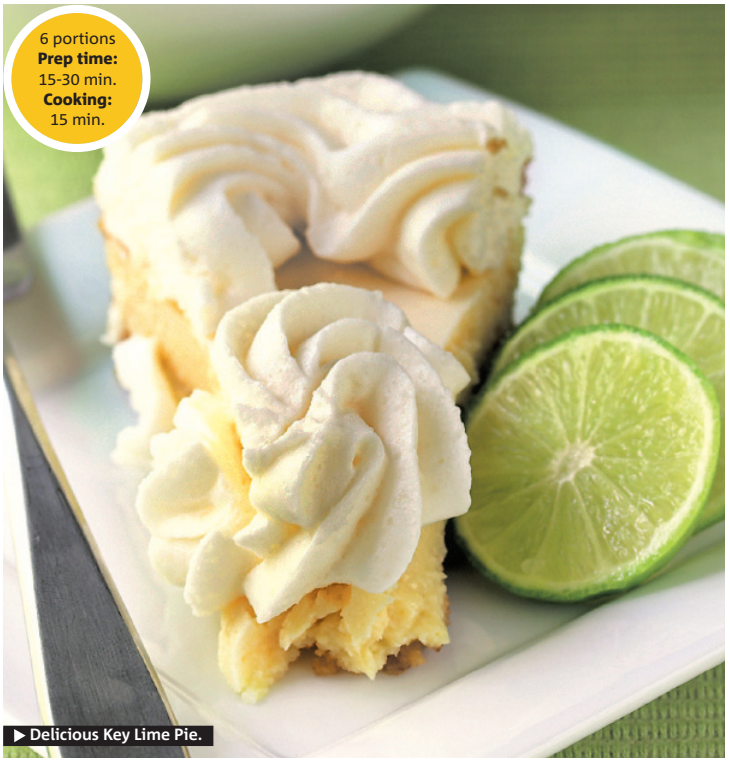
Key Lime Pie, a summer treat



▶ Delicious Key Lime Pie.

▶ Dessert became Florida's state pie in 2006 ▶ Key lime juice is a pale yellow, instead of green

If there's one dessert that says "summertime," it's key lime pie — sweet yet tart and completely refreshing, it's a perfect way to top off a barbecue or to complement a glass of iced tea on a hot day.

For this recipe look for key limes at the grocery store, which are smaller than regular limes.

You can substitute with regular limes if key limes are not available. More summer pie recipes are available online at tenderflake.ca.

Ingredients :

- 1 Tenderflake frozen pie shell
- 1 (300 mL) can sweetened condensed milk
- 4 egg yolks, beaten
- ½ cup (125 mL) fresh lime juice (approx. 6 limes)
- Whipped cream

Preparation:

1. Preheat oven to 400°F (200°C) and prepare the pie shell according to package directions for a baked pie shell. Remove from oven and set aside to cool.
2. Lower oven temperature to 350°F (180°C).
3. Whisk together sweetened condensed milk, egg yolks and lime juice in a medium bowl until well combined.
4. Pour lime filling into baked pie crust.
5. Place pie on baking sheet and bake for 15 minutes. Remove from oven and cool completely at room temperature.
6. Serve with whipped cream.

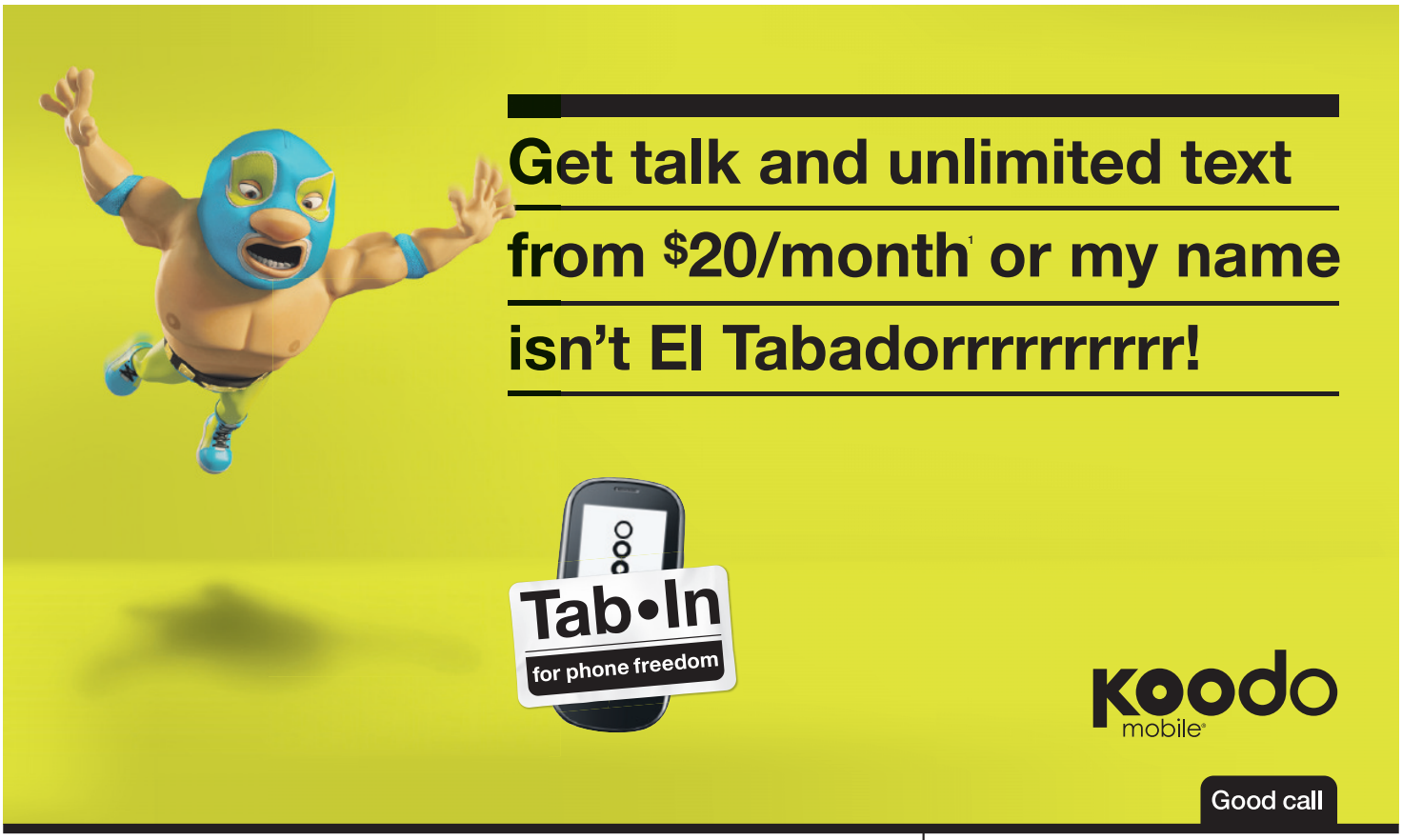
NEWS CANADA

Superfood: Carrots

Including carrots in your diet is a great idea. They contain the anti-oxidants known as carotenoids that include beta-carotene. Beta-carotene is great for keeping your skin healthy and glowing, protecting the skin from sun damage.

Beta-carotene also assists the body in producing the pigment melanin, the reason why most people see their skin darken when exposed to sunlight. The high levels of Vitamin A are essential in maintaining healthy eyesight and boosting our immune system.

ROMINA MCGUINNESS



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Orchard Park Shopping Centre
Park Royal Shopping Centre
Richmond Centre

(1) Excludes premium messages.

ISTOCK

▶ When you wake up, a good way to get the motor roaring is to take a quick walk outside in the morning sun — the light is a biological cue for your body and mind to start up.

Time to rise and shine

Bad news for all those night owls and those just graduating from school Your ability to function in a 9-to-5 world, or even stay awake during morning meetings, may be predetermined by your biological clock

DREW HINSHAW
METRO WORLD NEWS

It turns out morning people may have the advantage in the working world.

"A person with a morning schedule is probably in a much better position to adapt to typical workplace demands," says Dr. Gary Richardson, a sleep researcher. He believes that we're all individually DNA-wired to prefer late night tinkering or early rising.

"In our day-working society, morning types do better," concurs Dr. Timothy Monk, a human chronobiology researcher.

But the night types need not yawn their way through a lifetime of mid-morning conferences. Shifting our internal rhythms is possible — even for new college graduates, for whom, Richardson says, the transition from 3 a.m. bedtimes to 7 a.m. wake-up calls is rough. Start by clamming the laptop shut two hours before you tuck yourself in.

"You cannot move from being a night owl to a morning lark cold turkey. Just move your bedtime five or ten minutes earlier every night."
DR. TIMOTHY MONK

"The internal clock relies on light to figure out what time of day it is," Richardson explains. "If you spend the hours between midnight and 2 a.m. in front of your laptop, that light is enough to push the clock a little later."

Morning light is a powerful cue, so when the rooster crows, take a stroll. "As soon as you wake up, go for a walk in daylight," Monk suggests.

Most importantly, recognize that you can't make the change overnight.

Bono-style

Failing all else, Monk recommends passing the evening hours in a pair of Bono-style yellow-lens shades. "They'll filter out the blue light," he says. "That's where the action is."
DREW HINSHAW

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Getting out of the work grind takes planning

If your dream retirement includes jetting off to some far-off place, you aren't alone. Whether you spent your teens following your favourite band as they criss-crossed the continent or you wished you could have slung your knapsack across your shoulder to wander the streets of Paris, many people want to recapture their youth and leave their retirement party to board a plane to see the sights.

Check out helpmysavingslast.ca and answer a few questions. You'll get information that will help you and your financial advisor determine what's best for your future. NEWS CANADA

WHEN YOUR BOSS GETS TOO CLOSE

Workplace Law

DANIEL LUBLIN
WORK@METRONEWS.CA

After her first few shifts as a customer service representative with Money Mart in Toronto, Marjorie Harriott noticed that her boss, Desmond Wade, liked women a bit too much.

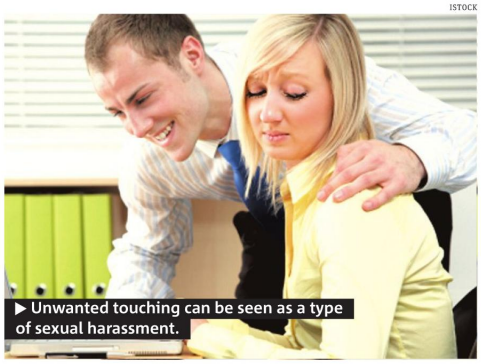
Wade would often ogle female customers and employees, staring at their breasts and rear ends, making comments that they found offensive. Wade also would come too close to the female staff, sometimes touching them, and making them feel uncomfortable to be around him.

Matters came to a head for Harriott when Wade approached her at work and started to massage her neck. Harriott reported the incidents to a manager who indicated that the company's human resources representative would look into it. When she never heard back, Harriott telephoned another manager in human resources and complained that she had been harassed. A few weeks later, she was called to a meeting and told that the matter had been investigated and was closed. According to Money Mart, Harriott had to "work it out" with Wade.

Upset about the company's failure to adequately investigate what she felt was sexual harassment, Harriott recently took Money Mart to a human rights tribunal, which is equal to a court for discrimination based matters.

The tribunal rejected Money Mart's defence that Harriott had condoned Wade's behaviour and found that as an employer, Money Mart had an obligation to ensure a harassment-free workplace, regardless of whether employees tolerate it.

ISTOCK



▶ Unwanted touching can be seen as a type of sexual harassment.

The tribunal was also offended by the company's investigation into Harriott's complaints. It said that company "completely failed" to investigate the incidents once it became of aware of them. Harriott was awarded $30,000 in damages, payable by both Wade and Money Mart.

"The tribunal was also offended by the company's investigation ... It said that company "completely failed" to investigate the incidents once it (was) aware of them."

Consider this...

According to this case, employers have a positive obligation to investigate workplace harassment complaints in a sophisticated manner. Many employers will simply blunder so consider the following:

- Insist that an independent investigator be hired to investigate the complaint;
- If there are policies addressing harassment, demand that they be strictly following and do that in writing;
- At the outset of the complaint, request a list of specific remedies, such as a transfer or an apology. Most companies will act quickly to mediate a complaint that does not require a significant payout.

Discover career opportunities at VCC

It's a good feeling to land a great job. Talk to us at VCC about your career options at one of these free information sessions:

Program	Campus
Hair Design / Esthetics Wednesday, July 14, 4:30 p.m. – room 201	Downtown
ESL Wednesday, July 14, 10 a.m. – room 1227	Broadway
Culinary Arts Friday, July 16, 9:30 a.m. – room 305B	Downtown
TESOL programs Tuesday, July 20, and July 27, 12 noon – room 526	Downtown
Drafting Technician Thursday, July 22, 1 p.m. – room 718	Downtown

Downtown campus – 200-block Dunsmuir at Hamilton (two blocks west of Stadium SkyTrain station)

Broadway campus – 1155 East Broadway
Visit **vcc.ca** or call **604.443.8453**

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Seats still available

Courses are filling fast, but there's still time to apply and register for classes starting in September at Kwantlen Polytechnic University.

See **kwantlen.ca/webreg** for an updated listing of available classes in the Fall 2010 semester.

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Prepare yourself to pay up for your kid's PSE

- Parents often think of their child's first word or step
- But what about their first day of college/university?

ISTOCK

▶ It's important to start thinking about your child's education, even if they are this young.

When it comes to the money to put a child through school, it's better to start preparing for that day sooner rather than later. With tuition fees rising each year there's no way of knowing what the cost of post-secondary education will be when your child is ready to take that step.

According to Statistics Canada, university tuition fees in 2009/10 were an average $4,917 — up 3.6 per cent from the previous year. Costs continue to rise faster than the pace of inflation, leading some to believe that children born today will be looking at post-secondary costs in excess of $100,000.

As parents, no one wants to see their child struggle to pay for school and end up in debt, a remedy for this is a registered education savings plan (RESP). An RESP is a plan registered under the Federal Income Tax Act that helps families save for post-secondary education. Income earned on contributions grows in a tax-shelter until a child is ready to attend college, university or trade school.

"RESPs are a great option for parents interested in saving for their child's post-secondary education," says Peter Lewis, vice president of operations for the Canadian Scholarship Trust Foundation.

NEWS CANADA

Federal help

- A federal government grant also provides a 20 per cent match on RESP contributions, which can add up to $500 per year per child or $7,200 over the life of the entire plan.

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Book review

Who is your personal reference?

The Referral Machine
Author: John Jantsch
Publisher: Portfolio
Price: $32.50

John Jantsch, best selling author of Duct Tape Marketing, most recent book, The Referral Engine, touches on the importance of putting processes in place to make collecting referrals (as well as increasing them) a reality.

Jantsch discusses the social currency attached to making a referral. It works two fold, you become seen as the 'go to' person for (quality) referrals, which of course builds the relationship you have with the business or person who benefits from your referral (the person you are referring them to). Secondly, the end user, the person who requested the recommendation, perceives you in a positive light, provided they had a positive experience.

This book shows you how to make you business market itself.

CRAIG LUND

NL finally nabs ASG victory

3	1
NL	AL

One key swing by Brian McCann pulled the National League out of the all-star shadows.

McCann's three-run double in the seventh inning provided the NL all the offence it needed to capture its first Midsummer Classic since 1996 with a 3-1 victory last night.

The National League earns home-field advantage in this year's World Series.

McCann, the Atlanta Braves catcher, earned the game's MVP award.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports in brief

Taylor pleads not guilty

LAW. Hall of Fame linebacker Lawrence Taylor pleaded not guilty yesterday to an indictment that alleges he had sex with a 16-year-old girl in a New York hotel room. The former NFL star allegedly paid $300 US to the girl, a runaway, for the alleged encounter in May.

Jefferson to Jazz: Report

NBA. The Minnesota Timberwolves have agreed to send Al Jefferson to the Utah Jazz for two future first-round draft picks and a trade exception, a report said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHRIS O'MEARA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ New York Yankees owner George Steinbrenner, pictured in this 2003 photo, died yesterday.

Yankees lose their Boss

Steinbrenner, 80, dies of heart attack in Florida The Boss owned baseball's most storied franchise for just over 37 years

George Steinbrenner, whose big wallet and win-at-all-cost attitude whipped the New York Yankees into a billion-dollar sports empire, died yesterday morning. He had just celebrated his 80th birthday July 4.

Steinbrenner had a heart attack, was taken to St. Joseph's Hospital in Tampa, Fla., and died at about 3:30 a.m. PT, a person close to the owner told The Associated Press. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the team had not disclosed those details.

"George was The Boss, make no mistake," Hall of Famer Yogi Berra said.

"He built the Yankees into champions, and that's something nobody can ever deny. He was a very generous, caring, passionate man. George and I had our differences, but who didn't? We became great friends over the last decade and I will miss him very much."

Steinbrenner's death on the day of the all-star game was the second in three days to rock the Yankees. Bob Sheppard, the team's revered public address announcer from 1951 to 2007, died Sunday at 99.

"He was truly the most influential and innovative owner in all of sports," former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani said.

"He made the Yankees a source of great pride in being a New Yorker."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

At a glance

Some key numbers from Steinbrenner's career.

- **TITLES** In 37-plus seasons as owner, he led the Yankees to seven World Series championships.
- **FIRINGS** Famously hired manager Billy Martin five times and changed managers 21 times in all.

4 sports

The connection

Sandy Alomar Jr.

Jeff Conine

Michael Young

Dave Concepcion

Can you guess the connection between these baseball players?

CONNECTION ANSWER: ALL WERE ALL-STAR MVPS. YESTERDAY'S ANSWER: ALL WERE PICKED FOR ALL-STAR GAME BEFORE THEY TURNED 22.

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5 drive

Up and down

Mazda turns 90
Mazda is celebrating its 90th anniversary this year. One of Mazda's most popular innovations has been the rotary engine.

Mercury falling
Looks like Mercury is finally set to shut shop. According to Automotive News, the Ford marque will end production of its models in October.

Scan code for more automotive reviews and news
(for instructions, see page 3)

SUBMITTED PHOTO

▶ Dodge continues to have a strong presence in the mid-size sedan segment with the 2010 Avenger (R/T shown here).

2010 Avenger road warrior with value

Family sedan buyers looking for bang for their buck should consider this Dodge mid-sizer ◗ Plenty of features available in topline R/T model

JIM ROBINSON
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

Readers are no doubt familiar with the trials and tribulations Chrysler is just starting to emerge from.

With new partner Fiat and all the cars it brings like Alfa Romeo, there is a certain optimism within the organization.

In the meantime, there are several vehicles in Chrysler showrooms that offer great value for the money and one of them is the Dodge Avenger.

The current Avenger went on the market five years ago and marked the return of Dodge into the mid-size segment after the absence of a decade.

For 2010, Dodge has simplified the lineup that still has three trim levels but does away with the 2.7-litre Flex Fuel V6.

With virtually no ethanol filling stations in the county, it didn't make sense to keep it.

Tested here is the topline R/T that starts life as a SXT ($24,795). The big-ticket option ($2,225) is the 3.5-litre V6 producing 235 hp and 232 lb/ft of torque through a six-speed Auto/Stick transmission (that adds $275) with sequential manual shift mode.

Fuel consumption is rated at 12.9L/100 km (22 mpg) city and 7.4L/100 km (38 mpg) highway.

The R/T, like the SE and SXT is front-drive only. All-wheel-drive was an option in the past but it has been dropped.

That price for the R/T engine option also includes 19 amenities some of which are heated, leather front bucket seats, trunk lid spoiler, sport suspension with fore and aft stabilizer bards and "Firm Feel" power steering.

The 3.5-litre V6 is a punchy unit that makes the most of the six-speed transmission to the point shifts are imperceptible. Of course that changes when you drop down to the manual mode where you can hold the car in any gear longer for more rapid acceleration.

Summing up, the 2010 Avenger offers almost full-size car interior passenger volume at a compact car price.

Specifications

- **BODY STYLE** Mid-size sedan.
- **ENGINE** 3.5-litre, V6 (235 hp, 232 lb/ft)
- **FUEL ECONOMY** 12.9L/100 km (22 mpg) city, 7.4L/100 km (38 mpg) highway.
- **PRICE** $31,435 as tested including $1,400 shipping fee.

Summer's the best time to get your car rust-proofed

A commitment to control corrosion throughout one's vehicle is the first step for protecting the investment today, tomorrow, and for resale later.

If, however, you need even more incentive, how about this: Industry experts say that the summer season, now, gives us all the right conditions for the most effective rust proofing. "There is no wrong time to spray and protect your vehicle from corrosion," says Craig Shuttleworth at Krown, a leader in this field. "But the best season for it is summer, not just because winter's harsh conditions are around the corner, but also because the products respond better in warmer weather.

"Moisture on metal, not salt, is the number one cause of corrosion."
CRAIG SHUTTLEWORTH, KROWN

▶ Beware the rust.

"Actually, winter is not the harshest season for corrosion. Spring is worse because once the temperatures begin to rise and the metal warms up, all of the 'salty' residue in seams, crevices and hidden areas, really goes to work."

Most car buffs are committed to the rust proofing process once per year—and August is the choice time because it ensures a good 12 months of protection throughout the toughest weather, wear-and-tear.

"Also, when it's warm outside our eco-friendly Krown formula is able to creep a little faster and more thoroughly into all the seams and crevices."

NEWS CANADA

Toyota picks up two awards for engines

Toyota's engineering prowess has once again been rewarded with wins in the Green Engine of the Year and Sub-1.0 Litre Engine of the Year categories at the 2010 International Engine of the Year Awards.

These two victories represent true international recognition, the engines having been tested and judged by a panel of 72 motoring journalists from 35 countries.

Toyota's latest success reinforces the company's impressive International Engine of the Year track record, with 22 wins (out of a total 144) since the awards began in 1999.

▶The Toyota Prius.

Toyota Hybrid Synergy Drive regains its crown as Green Engine of the Year in 2010, winning the award for the fourth time in the last five years.

Summing up, the judges praised Toyota hybrids as: "The essence of mechanical, electric and electrical ingenuity in one affordable package" and "Still the best green technology available on the market — reliable and durable, with very low real life CO2 emissions."

Toyota's light and compact 1.0-litre VVT-i engine has won the Sub 1.0-Litre Engine of the Year category for the fourth year running. FROM CARGUIDE

Volkswagen top overall engine

The much sought-after Engine of the Year Award of the 2010 International Engine of the Year Awards has been won by Volkswagen. Entered in the competition this year was Volkswagen's new 1.4-litre TSI engine and it won not only in the 1 to 1.4-litre category, but also took the overall award as International Engine of the Year.' Volkswagen leads the way globally in the strategy of charging using direct injection and with these powerful engines covers the model range from Polo all the way to the Passat CC. FROM CARGUIDE

2011 Outback priced

Subaru Canada, Inc. has announced pricing for the 2011 range of award winning Outback models, even with enhanced equipment, will carry over from the previous model year.

For the new model year, Subaru introduces a new Convenience Package that's standard on the Outback 2.5i and includes folding exterior mirrors and voice-activated Blueconnect Bluetooth system for hands free cell phone connectivity. In addition Subaru has added a new front bumper underguard to the Outback 2.5i Sport Package.

For a complete list of models, options, and pricing, go to subaru.ca
FROM CARGUIDE

Enriched **technology**

DIY Corvette, with GM's help

Enthusiasts can assemble, adjust and clean their engines with the parts provided ◐ Program first of its kind in industry, GM says

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Chevrolet Corvette ZR1 Grand Sport

Corvette owners could soon be revving up engines they build with their own hands. General Motors Co. said Monday that buyers who order a 2011 Corvette Z06 or ZR1 can help assemble their cars' high-performance LS7 and LS9 engines. The automaker believes the program is the first of its kind in the industry.

The engines will be built at GM's Performance Build Centre in Wixom, Mich., where GM assembles all of its high-performance engines by hand.

The facility can assemble up to 15,000 engines per year, GM spokesman Tom Read said.

Read said it will take buyers about six hours to assemble, adjust and clean their engines with the parts provided. A skilled technician will supervise.

The 2011 Corvettes are just going into production and will be on sale soon. Read said the company expects to have customers building their own engines as soon as next month. GM sold 13,934 Corvettes last year, according to AutoData Corp. GM suggests dealers charge US$5,800 for the engine-building program.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

For customers

- Read said the program shows the lengths GM will go to for its customers. The program could also help build positive buzz for the company, which is planning an initial public offering as early as October.

The power of cool

The Infiniti G37x Coupe may be the sexiest of all G-series models With stunning looks, the Coupe matches rick, luxurious interior with flawless performance on the road

DREAM CAR

LORNE DRURY
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

I've always looked forward to driving Infiniti's G-series cars, but none more so than the Coupe version.

In my opinion it's always been one of the sexiest cars on the market and it has handling and performance to match the exciting design — all for a reasonably affordable price.

This time my tester was the G37x Coupe AWD, featuring Infiniti's ATESSA E-TS all-wheel drive system. This AWD version monitors wheel spin, throttle position and vehicle speed and automatically sends up to 50 per cent of power to the front wheels to enhance traction and control under poor road conditions.

When AWD is not needed, up to 100 per cent of the power goes to the rear wheels to preserve the rear-wheel driving characteristics.

My tester had the seven-speed automatic transmission with DS (Drive Sport) mode. Standard on the G37 Coupe is a six-speed manual transmission.

The G37 Coupe was redesigned in 2008 and for 2010 it has only minimal changes with most inside the cabin. The most noticeable is a switch from the previous "Washi" aluminum trim to "Shodo" aluminum style trim, inspired by Japanese calligraphy.

The interior is very rich looking with an upscale feel to it. It's not flashy with lots of wood trim, but it is nicely finished with great seats and a pleasant atmosphere.

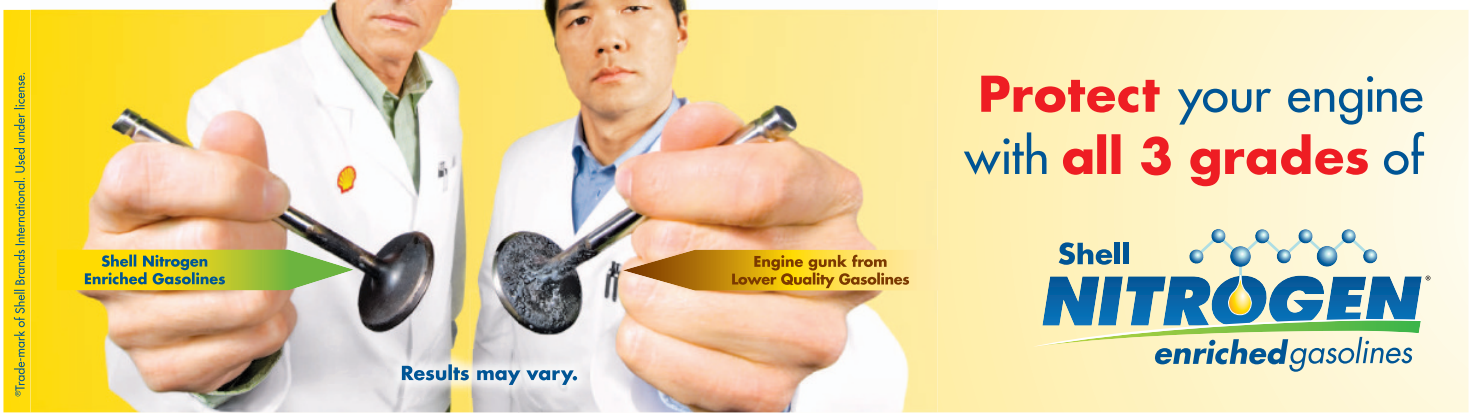
The rear seat area is very limited with tight headroom because of the sloping roofline. I think it would only be used occasionally, as this is more of a two-person car. The front seats, unlike the rear, have lots of legroom.

On the safety front, the G37 Coupe has an advanced airbag system with dual stage supplemental front airbags, roof mounted side curtain airbags and front seat mounted side impact airbags.

As I mentioned earlier, I think the G37 Coupe is the most visually appealing of all G-series models and during my week with it I had several people stop to talk and admire the styling and comment on the striking blue paint colour.

Unlike some sport sedan wannabees, this car has the performance to match its great looks.

▶The 2010 G37x Coupe



BIKERS, DRIVERS CAN GET ALONG, CAN'T THEY?

Auto Pilot

MIKE GOETZ

DRIVE@METROEWS.CA

Just because Lady Gaga showed up in the clubhouse of the New York Yankees, doesn't mean she hates hockey or soccer. I mean, she could hate hockey or soccer. I haven't asked her about it. I'm just saying that being around pro baseball players isn't a definitive way of saying baseball is her only sports-related interest.

Same thing for us motorists. Just because we hang around gas stations and the occasional Tim Hortons drive thru, doesn't mean we hate cycling and cyclists. In fact, many of us are avid cyclists, and are extremely hip to everything the bicycle can offer — to the transportation cause, to overall health, to the quest for fun.

During riding season, I often take my bike instead of the car, because it's easier and quicker, especially in the city.

Driving in a downtown core can sometimes be whacko. Gridlock. Closed streets. No parking or extremely high-priced parking. But with a bicycle you can almost glide to your destination, and once there, you can actually park — right in front of the building, and for free

Sometimes I ride because it's simply more fun that sitting in a car.

(There are so many times when driving a car is a hoot. But we all know there are times, when we drivers are either completely tuned out, like a 10-year old boy in French class, or frustrated to the point of gnawing the steering wheel.

I rarely feel frustration and/or mind-numbing tendencies when I'm pedalling my bike. It seems to be more calming and engaging at the same time, if that's possible.)

I know it's hard to feel chummy and/or solidarity with a cyclist that just gave you the finger, because he didn't like the way you didn't signal, but we need to get past the feeling like we're on two different teams.

We should continue to give them the respect and space they need to stay alive on our mutual pieces of pavement.

But I also think some riders should appreciate how many times we motorists (especially those that bike), give cyclists a fair shake or a better shake than they deserve. A lot of times they don't even know we're doing it.

Considering that, it wouldn't hurt if they could give us a wee bit more slack, when we inadvertently cause them the odd sphincter moment here and there.

Whenever there is a something to be hashed out between cycling interests and motoring interests, the discussion (or argument) always seems to get characterized as an "us versus them" thing. I'm not sure it needs to be.

11.4M

Number of Canadians over the age of 12 riding bicycles, according to Statistics Canada 2009 numbers

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

News in brief

New Accord on sale in fall

Set to go on sale in October, the 2011 Honda Accord sedan and coupe receive significant updates, including improved fuel economy, enhanced exterior and interior styling, and the addition of a new Special Edition (SE) trim level.

Available as either a sedan or a coupe in four-cylinder and V6 variations, the Accord is designed to offer a balance of performance, efficiency and value specific to each individual model.

Improvements to vehicle aerodynamics, engine friction and transmission gear ratios all contribute to fuel economy improvements.

The estimated fuel-economy ratings for Accord four-cylinder sedan models equipped with an automatic transmission improve to 8.8/5.8 city/highway L/100Km (seven per cent better city and 11 per cent better highway than the comparable 2010 model).

FROM CARGUIDE

2011 Mustang sets record

The 2011 Ford Mustang, which made history when it became the first car ever to deliver more than 30 mpg and 305 horsepower, has set a new record by running 1,457 laps at Bristol Motor Speedway while averaging (US) 48.5 mpg.

FROM CARGUIDE

Enriched **protection**

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Danger at wheel

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
FOR METRO CANADA

Are you prepared if disaster strikes at the wheel? Here's a look at how to maximize your chances of survival in some of the deadliest worst-case scenarios.

▶ There are plenty of malfunctions that can put you in danger.

Problem

A malfunction with your throttle keeps the pedal stuck to the floor after passing another vehicle. Panic sets in as your vehicle piles on speed dangerously.

Possible solution

Forget turning off the engine or braking, and get the vehicle into "Neutral" instead. This takes about half a second and decouples the driveline from the wheels.

Once in neutral, signal, brake, and coast to the side of the road. Then, kill the engine and assess the problem. Practice putting your gear selector into neutral, so you're ready if the need arises. Teach your kids, too.

Problem

You're travelling the highway when you suddenly hear a loud noise and realize you can't see. A piece of ice became dislodged from a transport-truck's roof and has penetrated your windshield — sending glass shards into your eyes. You're completely blind, and your vehicle is little more than a projectile.

Possible solution

Ian Law is the president and chief instructor of the ILR Car Control School (carcontrolschool.com). He's been teaching drivers of all ages advanced safe driving techniques for years. "Any motorist who considers themselves a good driver will have been focused on their driving and the situation before the incident. This is called "situational awareness," and it involves processing all driving information so that the driver knows at all times what is around them — and where."

Honda CR-V made to love

If you like reliability, look no further than this second-gen SUV
Competition for Rav4 and Escape

A 2006 Honda CR-V

SECOND GEAR

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

The second-generation Honda CR-V launched for the 2002 model year to battle competitors like the Ford Escape, Toyota Rav4 and Hyundai Tucson. With four wheel drive, plenty of space and a flexible, storage-rich interior, the second-generation model carried on the success of the original CR-V, which launched in 1997.

CR-V came only with four-cylinder power, making it a popular choice with shoppers who prioritize cheap running costs and low fuel consumption. If you're looking for V6 power or extra towing capacity, you may need to shop elsewhere.

Honda's proven 2.4 litre i-VTEC four-cylinder engine generated 160 horsepower.

A five-speed manual transmission was standard equipment, and ideal for shoppers who prefer to row their own gears. An automatic was available.

Honda's Real-Time four wheel drive (4WD) system was the CR-V's winter-busting weapon.

It automatically powers all four wheels the instant wheel-slippage is detected, while running only the front wheels otherwise.

With four-wheel drive working on an as-needed basis, all-weather confidence and mileage are both maximized.

Note that a later CR-V in this generation (2005 or 2006) benefitted from a driveline update that added a smoother drive-by-wire throttle system and a faster-reacting 4x4 system. Additionally, a five-speed automatic transmission replaced the four-speed unit for better mileage and performance.

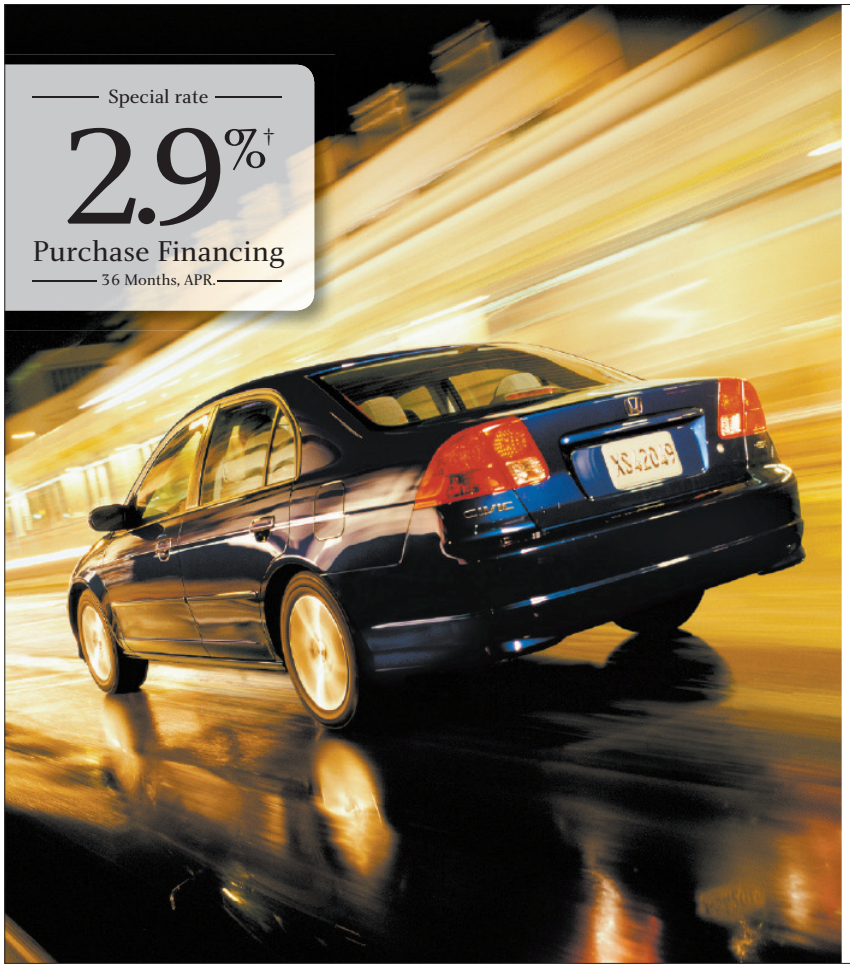
Specifications

- **MODEL**
  2002 to 2006 Honda CR-V
- **VEHICLE TYPE**
  Compact SUV
- **APPROXIMATE USED PRICE RANGE**
  $6,000 to $21,000

What owners like

Owners love the CR-V's combination of good mileage, confident year-round operation and its flexible 'ready for anything' interior.

Other owner-stated positives include good visibility, plenty of storage, easy-to-use controls and a commanding seating position.



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CANADA'S hottest model event

2010 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT shown.§

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2010 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN

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0%†
PURCHASE FINANCING for 36 months

OR CHOOSE

$129 BI-WEEKLY @ A VARIABLE PRIME RATE OF **2.50%±** FOR 84 MONTHS

2010 Dodge Journey SXT shown.§

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2010 Jeep Patriot Limited shown.§

2010 JEEP PATRIOT SPORT

PURCHASE FOR
$14,980•

INCLUDES $3,000 CONSUMER CASH* AND FREIGHT.

PLUS GET
0%†
PURCHASE FINANCING for 36 months

OR CHOOSE

$89 BI-WEEKLY @ A VARIABLE PRIME RATE OF **2.50%±** FOR 84 MONTHS

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dodge caravan kids

SIRIUS SATELLITE RADIO

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Aluminum's light touch

Automakers slowly adapting to metal for body parts Expert says aluminum better for fuel economy

DRIVING FORCE

JIL McINTOSH
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

When it comes to fuel economy, weight is the enemy: a heavier vehicle requires more fuel. Increasingly, more manufacturers are turning to lighter-weight aluminum for parts and panels.

"The first aluminum parts were radiators, when aluminum displaced copper and brass," says Doug Richman, of the Aluminum Association's Aluminum Transportation Group, and vice-president of engineering and technology for California's Kaiser Aluminum.

"Then it was castings, such as engines, transmissions and master cylinders. The next frontier will be high-volume applications of body structure, closure panels, engine cradles and instrument panel support beams."

Automakers have traditionally been slow to adopt extensive use of aluminum for several reasons, the primary one being cost.

"They do have some cost premiums," Richman says. "It's not huge, but the value of weight reduction was driven by the economic value in fuel savings. As the cost of fuel goes up, the value to the customer of a lighter vehicle goes up, and so the more expensive technology becomes practical."

Challenges also included aluminum's unique properties, which meant that carmakers had to learn new ways to stamp parts, and then fasten and weld them. Even handling techniques have to be modified, since aluminum scratches and dents more easily than steel, and it can't be picked up with a magnet. The cars must also be crash-tested, but Richman says that cars with a high percentage of aluminum can be safer than the steel-bodied cars they're replacing.

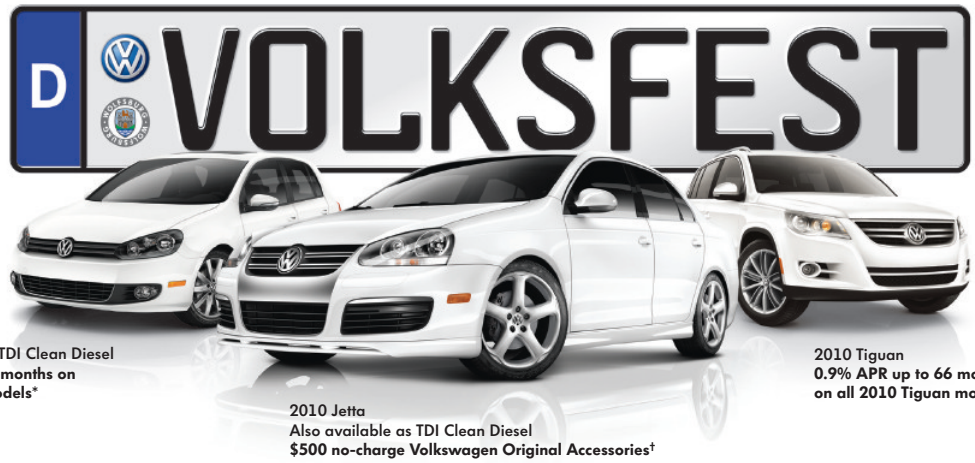
"What we're seeing is aluminum engineering design as a safer alternative."

SUBMITTED PHOTO

▶ Aluminum-based auto parts will become more common in next-generation vehicles.

... and it's green too

Recycling is also a major benefit. "Aluminum is infinitely recyclable," Richman says. "Today, over 95 percent of the aluminum in an automobile is recovered, is recycled and can be used again, because there's no degradation in the product. It's the only lightweight alternative that is 100 per cent recyclable."



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$500 no-charge Volkswagen Original Accessories†

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on all 2010 Tiguan models**

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0% APR up to 66 months on all 2010 Jetta models††

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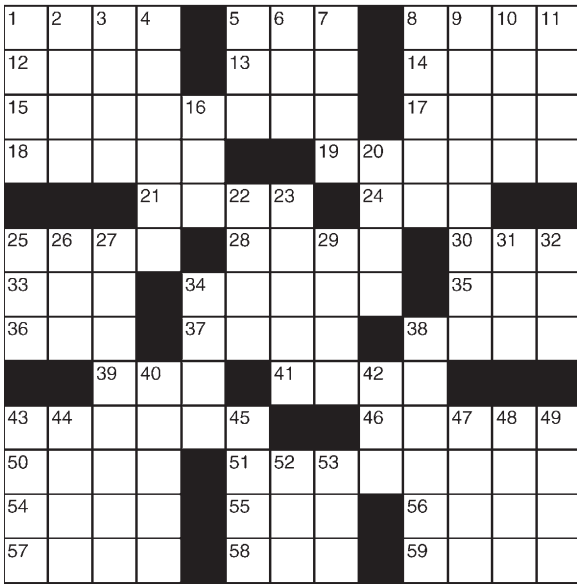
*Limited time finance offer available on purchase of a new 2010 Golf gas model through Volkswagen Finance, on approved credit. Offer excludes Golf TDI Clean Diesel models. Base MSRP of $22,540 for a new 2010 5-door Golf 2.5L base model with 5-speed manual transmission (including $1,365 freight and PDI) financed at 0% APR for 36 months equals $626.11 per month. Dealer may sell for less. Down payment or equivalent trade-in, due at signing, may be required. Cost of borrowing is $0 for a total obligation of $22,540. PPSA, license, insurance, registration, any dealer or other charges, options and applicable taxes are extra. **Limited time finance offer available on purchase of a new 2010 Tiguan 2.0T through Volkswagen Finance, on approved credit. Base MSRP of $29,455 for a new 2010 Tiguan 2.0T base model with 6-speed manual transmission (including $1,580 freight and PDI) financed at 0.9% APR for 66 months equals $457.59 per month. Dealer may sell for less. Down payment or equivalent trade-in, due at signing, may be required. Cost of borrowing is $746.07 for a total obligation of $30,201.07. PPSA, license, insurance, registration, any dealer or other charges, options and applicable taxes are extra. †Receive up to $500 towards Volkswagen Original Accessories, with the lease or purchase of any new 2010 Jetta models. Certain conditions apply. No cash value. Excludes labour and tires. ††Limited time finance offer available on purchase of a new 2010 Jetta 2.5L and Jetta TDI Clean Diesel through Volkswagen Finance, on approved credit. Base MSRP of $23,540 for a new 2010 Jetta 2.5L base model with 5-speed manual transmission (including $1,365 freight and PDI) financed at 0% APR for 66 months equals $356.67 per month. Dealer may sell for less. Down payment or equivalent trade-in, due at signing, may be required. Cost of borrowing is $0 for a total obligation of $23,540. PPSA, license, insurance, registration, any dealer or other charges, options and applicable taxes are extra. All offers end September 30, 2010 and are subject to change or cancellation without notice. 2010 5-door Golf 2.5L as shown is $30,440 with options and accessories. 2010 Jetta 2.5L as shown is $30,606 with options and accessories. 2010 Tiguan 2.0T as shown is $42,805 with options and accessories. Models may not be exactly as shown. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. ‡Up to $750 rebate for recent college or university graduates. Certain conditions apply. Visit vw.ca or your Volkswagen dealer for details. "Volkswagen", the Volkswagen logo, "Golf", "Jetta", "Tiguan" and "TDI Clean Diesel" are registered trademarks of Volkswagen AG. "Das Auto & Design" and "Volksfest" are trademarks of Volkswagen AG. © 2010 Volkswagen Canada.

Crossword



Across

1 Arp's style
5 Bill
8 Hemingway sobriquet
12 Clapton or Idle
13 The whole enchilada
14 Yemeni port city
15 Summertime pest
17 Coastal bird
18 Ear bone also called the anvil
19 Small circle of friends
21 Poetic foot
24 Debt notice
25 Fair
28 Exam format
30 Furthermore
33 Previous to
34 Oust
35 Bill's partner
36 Forensic ID
37 Back
38 Burning heap
39 Gridiron VIPs
41 Umps
43 Treat the same
46 Eagle's nest
50 Two-way
51 Online directions provider
54 Company with a swoosh
55 Hockey arena
56 Carvey or Delany
57 Tarzan's pals
58 Afternoon gathering
59 Chooses

Down

1 Ms. Moore
2 "East of Eden" son
3 Platter
4 Find not guilty
5 Mai — (cocktail)
6 PC key
7 United nations
8 Lanai
9 Sufficiency
10 Lima's country
11 Actress Hathaway
16 Can. neighbour
20 Springlike melody
22 Relocate
23 Pipe type
25 Clampett patriarch
26 Grecian container
27 Source of big waves
29 Farm fraction
31 Hide-hair link
32 Buck's mate
34 Formerly, formerly
38 Sham
40 Hay bundles
42 Common webpage abbr.
43 Author Ferber
44 Bit of banter
45 Send out
47 Harvest
48 "Say It — So"
49 Greek vowels
52 Expert
53 Shell game item

▶ Yesterday's answer

M	E	N	U		C	O	W		S	A	W	S
A	T	O	P		A	B	A		Q	U	I	P
P	O	R	K	Y	P	I	G		U	L	N	A
			E	A	T		G	R	A	D	E	S
S	T	R	E	W		C	L	A	W			
L	E	A	P		T	H	I	N	K	B	I	G
I	A	N		S	H	A	N	K		O	N	O
D	R	I	L	L	R	I	G		N	A	T	O
			L	O	O	N		A	A	R	O	N
T	Y	C	O	B	B		I	S	M			
B	U	R	Y		B	U	D	S	E	L	I	G
S	L	E	D		E	R	E		L	Y	R	A
P	E	W	S		D	N	A		Y	E	A	S

Sudoku

9								2
	7	1				9	4	
			9	7	3			
		2	6	4	8	1		
6	1						9	4
		3	5	1	9	2		
			1	5	2			
	3	8				6	2	
1								9

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

5	3	4	6	1	7	2	9	8
7	8	9	2	3	5	4	6	1
6	1	2	8	4	9	5	3	7
2	4	1	5	7	3	9	8	6
3	6	7	4	9	8	1	5	2
9	5	8	1	6	2	7	4	3
4	7	5	3	8	1	6	2	9
8	9	6	7	2	4	3	1	5
1	2	3	9	5	6	8	7	4

Send a KISS

Show some love! Send a note to somebody special at kiss@metronews.ca

ScoopDog ... as we drive down the road together, your velvet voiced singing is music to my parched ears. I look forward to our next Ft. Mac. sleepover!
CHACHING

Justin. Happy 3 years together! You make everyday very interesting. Love you!
<3 MILENA

Hi Ruba, many many happy returns of the day. Keep it going baby. During this 20 minutes of today, I could not think of anything but you.
LOVE MATT & RAMANAN

Burr, you are the best thing to come into my life. Happy 3 years. I love you. Always,
TEACUP

Caitlin, we have known each other for a long time and I think its time that we move on to the next level. Will you merry me?
LOVE DOUG

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Today Sunny 22° / 15°
Thursday Sunny 21° / 14°
Friday Sunny 21° / 15°

Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 If you feel as if you are trapped in a dead end job with no way out then obviously you are doing something wrong. Start thinking seriously about a career change.

♉ Taurus April 23-May 21 Mars in your fellow Earth sign of Virgo endows you with the confidence you need to start something new. A lot of the time you don't much enjoy being the center of attention, but today you will love it.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 You may feel a bit insecure at the moment, which is not like you at all. Be careful you don't overcompensate and act as if you don't have a care in the world.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 You worry too much and it is leaving you precious little time to enjoy the good things in your life, of which there are plenty. Read a book about successful people or listen to music that inspires you.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 There is no point getting too anxious about your money situation because it is sure to change for the better quite soon. A positive attitude will attract new opportunities into your life over the next few days.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 The time to start something new is now, today, this very moment. You will find it easy to get motivated. Don't waste this opportunity. Be amazing.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 All sorts of weird and wonderful ideas may be going through your mind but the thing you must remember is that none of them are true.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 You should be doing more with your life, and you know it. Ask yourself what it is that most inspires you and what it is you most want to accomplish. Then resolve to do it – not next month, but right now.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 Make an impression on employers and other important people. Do something dramatic, something that cannot fail to get you noticed. Sing your own praises every chance that you get.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 For quite some time now you have been content to let others decide where you will go and what you will do. That must change. One particular person has got too much control over you.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 You have fears like everyone else, but you actually quite enjoy a bit of anxiety – it helps you stay alert. That's good: you'll need your wits about you today.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20 A relationship problem can no longer be ignored – it's time to deal with it and then move on once and for all. Can you be that decisive? Of course you can. SALLY BROMPTON

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Caption contest

You write it!

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Sound financial advice helps Filipino newcomers integrate faster

While on vacation in his native Philippines – and a chance encounter with Rene and Celsa Bongo who were about to migrate to Canada – Edgar Pinero recalled his own immigrant experience 15 years before.

"I told them to get warm clothes and they should consider how to manage the money they bring to Canada," recalls Edgar, who today works as a Customer Experience Advisor at Scotiabank in Scarborough, Ontario.

Edgar notes that on his arrival to Canada in 1991, banking information seemed overwhelming, "It took my family seven years to buy a home because I was scared to get a mortgage until I met a Scotiabanker who explained everything. If I had learned sooner what was possible…," he ponders, adding that today he offers advice to Filipino newcomers while volunteering at his church.

While Rene Bongo did in-depth research before moving his six-member family to Canada, the Chemical Engineer and his Chemist-trained wife still faced surprises. "We were prepared for the move, but the reality was much harder," says Rene, remembering how their savings went quickly into expenses like rent.

Fortunately, the Bongo's new friend Edgar lent a hand, by welcoming them into his home and referring them to the same knowledgeable banker who helped him get started.

The Bongo family was impressed by advice from their local Scotiabank branch when they opened a bank account, including ways to earn more on their savings through a high interest account. "As soon as the Bank prepared the cheque for our rent deposit, they suggested we could put the money into our own home and get a mortgage instead," notes Rene. Thanks to this advice, they celebrated their second anniversary in Canada in a newly-purchased home.

Scotiabank also helped them through each step of their Canadian integration, such as the need for a car loan when his wife found work in her profession that involved a long distance commute. Most recently, Scotiabank pre-approved the family for a new home out west, when Rene secured a job in Alberta's Oil Sands.

"When I came back from the interview, I went to see Scotiabank about buying a home in Fort McMurray and they were ready to support us," says Rene, who admires his Toronto Branch Manager, Renee Omlas from Scotiabank's College and Bathurst location, for offering ideas that are one step ahead.

Edgar Pinero agrees, remembering how Renee Omlas helped him get a Retirement Savings Plan and benefit from withdrawing this savings without taxes being withheld for purchasing a home as a first time home buyer: "It's critical for new immigrants to find good advisors to show them what is do-able and affordable, and it's a pleasure to share this knowledge with others."

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